

LONGSTANTON AND DISTRICT HERITAGE SOCIETY

www.ldhs.org

Chairman: **Tony Cowley** **tony_cowley@tesco.net** 01954 250819
 2 Lambs Lane, Cottenham CB24 8TA

Secretary: **Hilary Stroude** **ldhs@btconnect.com** 01954 782560
 The Manor, Woodside, Longstanton CB24 3BU

The Longstanton & District Heritage Society (LDHS) was launched at an Inaugural Meeting held at Longstanton Village Institute on 11th May, 2007. LDHS was established with the aim of recording our history and making it available for public education and enjoyment. Faced with the imminent disappearance of our rural villages due to the development of the new town of Northstowe, local residents have taken it upon themselves to create a record of what went before. LDHS is actively seeking a heritage facility to be included in the Northstowe development plans – preferably in the former Officer’s Mess building located in Longstanton.

From the creation of the Longstanton Archive in 2005, work started almost immediately to devise a public society that would take on the responsibility of looking after and developing the archives. At the same time two other factors occurred that had a major impact on the development of the Longstanton & District Heritage Society.

The first major influence on the project was the fact that All Saints’ church Longstanton was closed, as part of the Nave ceiling had collapsed nearly 3 years before. All Saints’ church is a Grade I listed building and contains the 7 Squadron Association Memorial Window and the Roll of Honour. Outside the church are a number of graves from RAF airmen killed both during and after WW2. Faced with the prospect that All Saints’ church would never re-open; village residents did two things. Firstly the charity Friends of All Saints’ church, Longstanton was launched; and secondly it was decided that the village archives and history should be used to help raise money for heritage protection in the future.

LDHS has an excellent website www.ldhs.org and is rapidly building up a comprehensive archive of the surrounding area and people both locally and worldwide are encouraged to share their photographs and stories with them.

LDHS holds six talks a year on Friday evenings at 7.30 pm in the Village Institute, High Street, Longstanton. Details of these talks and other events can be found on their website. Entry for Non-members £2, light refreshments served afterwards

Programme:

Oct 1	Mike Coles and Dr Rodney Searle	Clay lands of Cambridgeshire by members of the Cambridge Archaeological Field Group
Nov 5	LDHS	RAF Oakington - LDHS introduction to this WWII Bomber Command airfield using material from our archival collection.

Further information about the Programme is available from the Secretary
